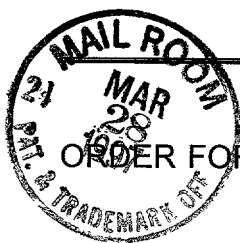


25 00  
570 AL



ORDER FOR A TITLE REPORT

61581 U.S. PTO

08828330

Attorney Docket No.  
I 852-002



IN REISSUE APPLICATION

INSULATED REMOVABLE POND COVER

**ORDER FOR A TITLE REPORT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.171**

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.171, the applicant requests that a Title report be placed into the file.

A check in the amount of \$25.00 in enclosed herewith.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge payment of any patent application processing or filing fees under 37 CFR §§ 1.16 and 1.17 or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1988. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

FRIEDERICHS LAW FIRM, plc.

By

Norman P. Friederichs (# 24,919)  
N. Paul Friederichs, III (# 36,515)  
Paul L. Maeyaert (# 40,076)

Suite 425, Pillsbury Center  
200 South Sixth Street  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402

Tel: 612/672-0102

Fax: 612/672-0214

CERTIFICATE OF FILING

E. No. EH69938724405

Date March 28, 1997

I, the undersigned, being a duly qualified and authorized agent of the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original as filed in the Office of the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C.

By



ORDER FOR A TITLE REPORT

Attorney Docket No.  
I 852-002

IN REISSUE APPLICATION

INSULATED REMOVABLE POND COVER

**ORDER FOR A TITLE REPORT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.171**

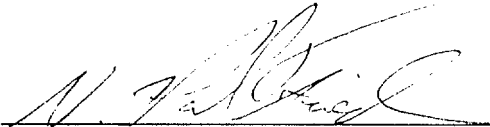
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.171, the applicant requests that a Title report be placed into the file.

A check in the amount of \$25.00 is enclosed herewith.

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FRIEDERICH'S LAW FIRM, plc.

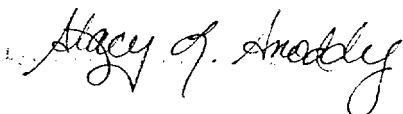
By

  
Norman P. Friederichs (# 24,919)  
N. Paul Friederichs, III (# 36,515)  
Paul L. Maeyaert (# 40,076)

Suite 425, Pillsbury Center  
200 South Sixth Street  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402  
Tel: 612/672-0102  
Fax: 612/672-0214

EH699387244CS

March 28, 1997



61581 U.S. PTO  
08828330



03/28/97

VERIFIED STATEMENT CLAIMING  
SMALL ENTITY STATUS  
(INDEPENDENT INVENTOR)

Attorney Docket No.  
1 852-002

Inventor(s) William D. Morgan

Title INSULATED REMOVABLE POND COVER

With respect to the invention described in

- ☒ the reissue application filed herewith  
application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_ filed (filing date)  
☒ Patent No., 4,500,549 issued March 28, 1995

I. IDENTIFICATION OF DECLARANT AND RIGHTS AS A SMALL ENTITY

I am a below named independent inventor and I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR § 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under 35 USC §§ 41(a) and (b).

II. OWNERSHIP OF INVENTION BY DECLARANT

Rights under contract or law remain with me. If the rights held are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights to the invention is listed below and no rights to the invention are held by any person who could not be classified as (1) an independent inventor under 37 CFR § 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, (2) a small business concern under 37 CFR § 1.9(d) or (3) a non-profit organization under 37 CFR § 1.9(e).

There is no such person, concern, or organization.

☒ The person, concerns, or organizations are listed below:

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

Express Mailing Label No. EH699387244US

Date of Deposit: March 28, 1997

I certify that the following papers (and or fee(s)) are being deposited with the United States Postal Service Express Mail Post Office to Addressee: service under 37 CFR § 1.9(c) on \_\_\_\_\_, addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D. C. 20540.

Respectfully submitted,  
FRIEDRICH'S LAW FIRM, p/c

By Gregory J. Anoddy

FULL NAME Industrial & Environmental Concepts, Inc.

ADDRESS 6009 Chapel Drive  
Minneapolis, MN 55439

☐ Individual

☒ Small Business Concern

☐ Non-Profit Organization.

FULL NAME The Lemna Corporation

ADDRESS 1408 Northland Drive, Suite 310  
St. Paul, MN 55120-1013

☐ Individual

☒ Small Business Concern

☐ Non-Profit Organization.

### III. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF DUTY TO NOTIFY PTO OF STATUS CHANGE

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.28(b).

### IV. DECLARATION

All statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

V. SIGNATURES

Signature: William D. Morgan Date: 28 March 1997  
William D. Morgan

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

VERIFIED STATEMENT CLAIMING  
SMALL ENTITY STATUS  
(SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN)

Atty Docket - I 852-002

Inventor(s) William D. Morgan

Title INSULATED REMOVABLE POND COVER

With respect to the invention described in

- ☒ the reissue application filed herewith  
application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_ filed (filing date)  
☒ Patent No., 5,400,549, issued March 28, 1995

I. IDENTIFICATION OF DECLARANT AND RIGHTS AS A SMALL ENTITY

I am:

- ☒ the owner of the small business concern identified below:  
☒ an official of the small business concern empowered to act on behalf of the concern identified below:

NAME OF CONCERN:

Industrial & Environmental Concepts, Inc.

ADDRESS OF CONCERN:

6009 Chapel Drive  
Minneapolis, MN 55439

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

Express Mailing Label No. EH699387244US

Date of Deposit: March 28, 1997

I certify that the following papers (and or fee(s)) are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee: service under 37 CFR § 1.10 on \_\_\_\_\_, addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D. C. 20231:

Respectfully submitted,  
FRIEDERICH LAW FIRM, plc

By Stacy J. Smalley

## II. OWNERSHIP OF INVENTION BY DECLARANT

Rights under contract or law remain with or have been conveyed to the above-identified concern. If the rights held are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights to the invention is listed below and no rights to the invention are held by any person who could not be classified as (1) an independent inventor under 37 CFR § 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, (2) a small business concern under 37 CFR § 1.9(d) or (3) a non-profit organization under 37 CFR § 1.9(e).

☐ There is no such person, concern, or organization.

☒ The person, concerns, or organizations are listed below:

FULL NAME            The Lemna Corporation

ADDRESS            1408 Northland Drive, Suite 310  
                         St. Paul, MN 55120-1013

☐ Individual

☒ Small Business Concern

☐ Non-Profit Organization.

NAME OF CONCERN:            William D. Morgan

ADDRESS OF CONCERN:        6009 Chapel Drive  
                                 Minneapolis, MN 55439

☒ Individual

☐ Small Business Concern

☐ Non-Profit Organization.

III. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF DUTY TO NOTIFY PTO OF STATUS CHANGE

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.28(b).

IV. DECLARATION

All statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

V. SIGNATURES

INDUSTRIAL & ENVIRONMENTAL CONCEPTS, INC.

Signature: William D. Morgan Date: 28 March 1997  
William D. Morgan

Title: President



Atty Docket - 1852-002

Inventor(s) William D. Morgan

Title INSULATED REMOVABLE POND COVER

With respect to the invention described in

X the reissue application filed herewith

\_\_\_\_\_ application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_ filed (filing date)

X Patent No., 5,400,549, issued March 28, 1995

I. IDENTIFICATION OF DECLARANT AND RIGHTS AS A SMALL ENTITY

I am:

\_\_\_\_\_ the owner of the small business concern identified below:

  X   an official of the small business concern empowered to act on behalf of the concern identified below:

NAME OF CONCERN: The Lemna Corporation

ADDRESS OF CONCERN: 1408 Northland Drive, Suite 310  
St. Paul, MN 55120-1013

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

Express Mailing Label No. EH699387244US

Date of Deposit: March 28, 1997

I certify that the following papers (and or form(s)) are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "First Class Post Office to Addressee: service under Section 1103(a) of Title 39, U.S.C." addressed to the Copyright Clearance Center, Inc., 27 Congress Street, Washington, D. C. 20001:

Respectfully submitted,  
 THUNDERBOLT LAW FIRM, PLLC

A. A. Anodde

## II. OWNERSHIP OF INVENTION BY DECLARANT

Rights under contract or law remain with or have been conveyed to the above-identified concern. If the rights held are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights to the invention is listed below and no rights to the invention are held by any person who could not be classified as (1) an independent inventor under 37 CFR § 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, (2) a small business concern under 37 CFR § 1.9(d) or (3) a non-profit organization under 37 CFR § 1.9(e).

\_\_\_\_ There is no such person, concern, or organization.

X The person, concerns, or organizations are listed below:

NAME OF CONCERN: Industrial & Environmental Concepts, Inc.

ADDRESS OF CONCERN: 6009 Chapel Drive  
Minneapolis, MN 55439

\_\_\_\_ Individual

X Small Business Concern

\_\_\_\_ Non-Profit Organization.

NAME OF CONCERN: William D. Morgan

ADDRESS OF CONCERN: 6009 Chapel Drive  
Minneapolis, MN 55439

X Individual

\_\_\_\_ Small Business Concern

\_\_\_\_ Non-Profit Organization.

III. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF DUTY TO NOTIFY PTO OF STATUS CHANGE

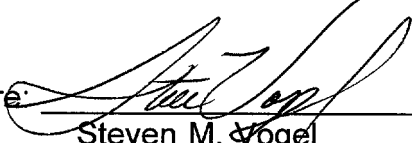
I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.28(b).

IV. DECLARATION

All statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

V. SIGNATURES

THE LEMNA CORPORATION

Signature: 

Steven M. Vogel

Date: 3/28/97

Title: President/CEO



TRANSMITTED DRAWINGS

Attorney Docket No.  
I 852-002

IN REISSUE APPLICATION

INSULATED REMOVABLE POND COVER

### REQUEST FOR TRANSFER OF DRAWINGS

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.174(a), applicant requests transfer of the drawings upon which the original patent issued. Enclosed are copies of the drawings.

FRIEDERICH'S LAW FIRM, plc.

By

*N. P. Friederichs*  
Norman P. Friederichs (# 24,919)  
N. Paul Friederichs, III (# 36,515)  
Paul L. Maeyaert (# 40,076)

Suite 425, Pillsbury Center  
200 South Sixth Street  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402  
Tel: 612/672-0102  
Fax: 612/672-0214

#### CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

Express Mail No. EH 699387244 US

Date of Mailing: March 28, 1997

I hereby certify the following papers (and or fee(s)) are being deposited with the United States Postal Service Third Class Mail Office to Addressee: service under 37 C.F.R. 1.20 on March 28, 1997, addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D. C. 20231:

Respectfully submitted,  
FRIEDERICH'S LAW FIRM, plc

By

*Therese J. Snoddy*

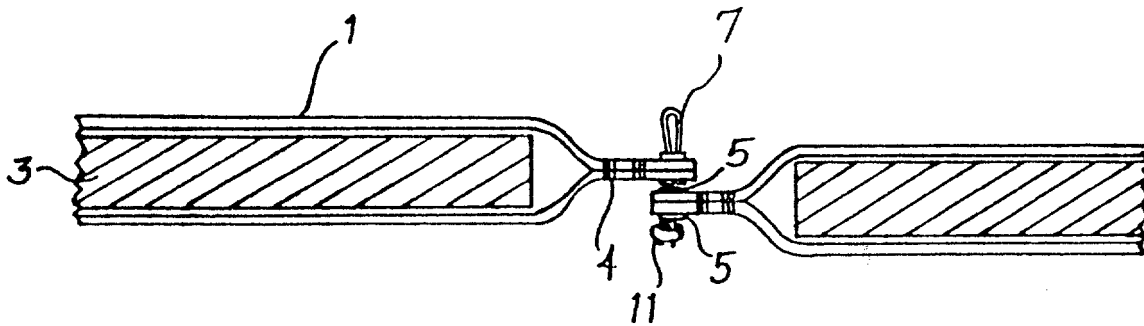


FIG. 1.

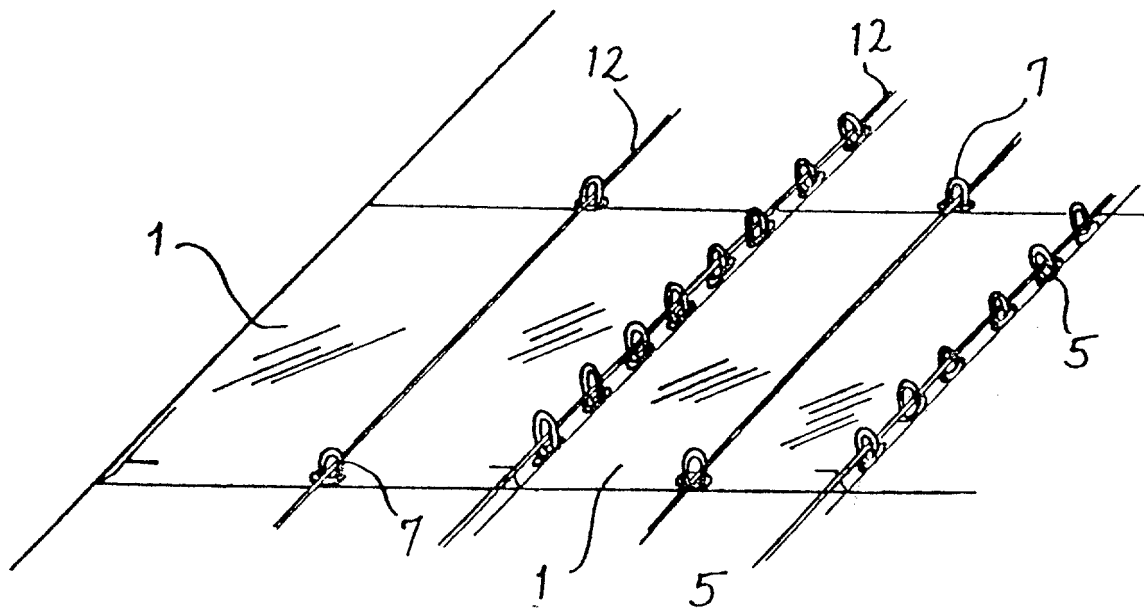
## CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

Express Mailing Label No. 24699387244Date of Deposit: 3-28-97

I certify that the following papers (and or fee(s)) are  
being deposited with the United States Postal Service  
"Express Mail Post Office to Addressee: service under  
37 CFR § 1.10 on \_\_\_\_\_, addressed  
to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks,  
Washington, D. C. 20231:

Respectfully submitted,  
FRIEDERICH'S LAW FIRM, plc

By S. Snoddy



## CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

Express Mailing Label No. EN 69738724Date of Deposit: 3-28-97

I certify that the following papers (and or fee(s)) are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee: service under 37 CFR § 1.10 on \_\_\_\_\_, addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D. C. 20231:

Respectfully submitted,  
FRIEDERICH'S LAW FIRM, plc

By Snoddy

FIG. 2.

# FRIEDERICH'S LAW FIRM, plc.

Suite 425 Pillsbury Center  
200 South Sixth Street  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402  
Phone: (612) 672-0102  
Fax: (612) 672-0214



March 28, 1997

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

RE: REISSUE LITIGATION

Enclosed for filing are the following Documents:

1. Application - INSULATED REMOVABLE POND COVER
2. Order for a Title Report Under 37 C.F.R. 1.171 with \$25.00 search fee
3. Request for Transfer of Drawings and Drawings
4. Combined Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. §§1.63 1.75(a) and POA
5. Verified Statement Claiming Small Entity Status - Independent Inventor
6. Reissue Application Fee Determination Record with \$813.00 filing fee
7. Verified Statement - Small Entity Status (2)
8. Offer to Surrender and Return of Original patent

Yours very truly,

N. Paul Friederichs, III

PF:sls



813/108 A/Reissoc

## INSULATED REMOVABLE POND COVER

### SUMMARY AND BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Man-made, usually rectangular, settling ponds are used for holding sewage and industrial wastes. These ponds are usually covered by a large one-piece geomembrane which has gas and water collection systems and is usually not insulated. These pond covers are laid on-site and secured by an anchoring trench. Because of their size, they are difficult to remove.

The present invention is an insulated removable pond cover which is made in sections which are held together by means of a series of grommets and cables. The cables are secured to a series of concrete deadheads.

The primary advantage of the invention is that it is removable, thus allowing the pond to be dredged and re-used. Another advantage is that the insulation results in heat being retained in the pond, thus speeding biodegradation of organic material.

### DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a side view of two of the panels.

FIG. 2 is a top perspective view showing two full panels and parts of four other panels, starting from one edge of the pond cover on the left.

### DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The pond cover comprises a plurality of generally rectangular casings or panel units 1 linked together. The number and size of the casings 1 will vary depending



upon the size of the pond to be covered, and the casings 1 are arranged in as many rows as are needed. Generally each casing 1 will be about seven and one-half feet wide and approximately forty feet long. Each casing 1 is filled with a layer of insulation 3 and then sealed at either end and along either side by a fusion weld 4. The casings 1 are made of a geomembrane (a high density polyethylene material).

Adjacent casings 1 are linked together in overlapping spaced relationship by means of a grommet and cable system. Each casing 1 is provided with a plurality of grommets 5 at either end and along either side, positioned outside the welded area 4 so as to not break the seal. The total number of grommets 5 per casing 1 can vary. After the grommets 5 of adjacent casings 1 are lined up in vertical spaced relationship to each other, a cable 7 is passed through the openings of the grommets 5, is formed into a loop above the panels 1 and is secured in position by a cable clamp 11 attached to the cable 7 beneath the casings 1. A heavy tie-down cable 12 is then passed through all the loops of the cables 7 in the row and is secured at either end to an anchor post such as a concrete deadhead, in a conventional manner such as tying the cable 12 to a rod with a nut at either end and securing the cable 12 with a cable clamp. If wind gets underneath the cover it is a problem, additional cables can be passed through the cable loops 7 perpendicular to cable 12 at either end and in the middle of the series of casings 1.

Once the pond cover has been secured in position, it will float upon the liquid in the pond, and it can be removed when the pond needs to be dredged.

## CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A pond cover comprising:

a plurality of panel units linked together;

means for insulating said pond cover, said insulating means comprising a generally rectangular layer of insulation wherein each of said panel units is filled internally with said layer of insulation and is sealed at either end and along either side by welding; and

means for linking said panel units together and securing said pond cover in position on a pond, said linking means comprising grommets disposed along said sealed end of each of said panel units, and each of said panel units is linked in vertical spaced relationship to an adjacent panel unit by at least one cable disposed through said vertical spaced grommets and formed into a loop projecting above said panel units, and said securing means including a second cable which is disposed through the entire row of said loops and is anchored at either of its end to an anchoring means.

2. The pond cover of claim 1 wherein the loops disposed through the grommets project both above and below the panel units.

3. The pond cover of claim 1 wherein the loops disposed about the second cable are disposed through said grommets.

4. A pond cover comprising:

a plurality of panel units linked together;

means for insulating said pond cover, said insulating means comprising a

generally rectangular layer of insulation wherein each of said

panel units is filled internally with said layer of insulation and is

sealed at either end and along either side by welding; and

means for linking said panel units together and securing said pond cover

in position on a pond, said linking means comprising grommets

disposed along said sealed end of each of said panel units, and

each of said panel units is linked in vertical spaced relationship to

an adjacent panel unit by at least one cable disposed through said

vertical spaced grommets and formed into a loop projecting above

said panel units, and said securing means including a second

cable which is disposed through a row of said loops and is

anchored at either of its end to an anchoring means.

5. A pond cover comprising:

a plurality of panels; and

means for linking and de-linking the panels.

6. The pond cover of claim 5 wherein the panels are rectangular.
7. The pond cover of claim 5 wherein the panels are formed of a geomembrane.
8. The pond cover of claim 5 wherein the panels are approximately seven and one-half feet wide and approximately forty feet long.
9. The pond cover of claim 5 further comprising:  
means for controlling temperature.
10. The pond cover of claim 9 wherein the means for controlling temperature comprises:  
insulation material sealed inside the panels.
11. The pond cover of claim 10 wherein the insulating material is sealed inside the panels by a weld.
12. The pond cover of claim 9 wherein the means for controlling temperature comprises:  
a rectangular layer of insulation.
13. The pond cover of claim 5 wherein the means for linking further comprises:

openings defined in the panels; and  
means for interconnecting the openings.

14. The pond cover of claim 13 wherein the means for linking further comprises:  
grommets circumscribing the openings.

15. The pond cover of claim 13 wherein the openings are adjacent to edges of the  
panels.

16. The pond cover of claim 13 wherein the openings of adjacent panels are in a  
vertical spaced relationship.

17. The pond cover of claim 13 wherein the means for interconnecting comprises:  
at least one fastener inserted through at least one opening; and  
means for securing the fastener in a loop.

18. The pond cover of claim 13 further comprising:  
means for locking and unlocking the interconnecting means relative to  
the openings in the panels.

19. The pond cover of claim 5 further comprising:  
means for anchoring the cover in a desired position.

20. The pond cover of claim 19 wherein the means for anchoring comprises:  
at least one tie-down cable; and  
means for anchoring the tie-down cable.

21. The pond cover of claim 19 wherein the anchoring means comprises an  
anchoring trench.

22. The pond cover of claim 20 wherein the tie-down cable interacts with the means  
for linking.

23. The pond cover of claim 5 wherein the means for linking joins the panels in a  
partially overlapping relationship.

24. The cover of claim 5 wherein the cover is supported above aqueous solutions.

25. The pond cover of claim 5 wherein the cover is a waste treatment pond cover.

26. The pond cover of claim 5 wherein the means for linking and de-linking the  
panels, includes an elongated member which passes through an opening in at least  
one panel.

27. The pond cover of claim 5 wherein the cover overlies a tank.

28. A method of manipulating a pond cover comprising the steps of:

forming a plurality of panels;

linking the plurality of panels; and

de-linking the plurality of panels.

29. The method of claim 28 wherein the step of forming further comprises the step of:

forming rectangular panels.

30. The method of claim 29 wherein the step of forming further comprises the step of:

forming panels that are approximately seven and one-half feet wide and approximately forty feet long.

31. The method of claim 28 wherein the step of forming further comprises the step of:

forming a plurality of panels from a geomembrane.

32. The method of claim 28 wherein the step of forming further comprises the step of:

insulating the panels.

33. The method of claim 32 wherein the step of insulating further comprises the step of:

sealing insulation inside the panels.

34. The method of claim 33 wherein the step of sealing further comprises the step of:

welding the insulating material inside the panels.

35. The method of claim 32 wherein the step of insulating further comprises the step of:

insulating with a rectangular layer of insulation.

36. The method of claim 28 wherein the step of linking further comprises the steps of:

defining openings in the panels; and  
interconnecting the openings.

37. The method of claim 36 wherein the step of defining further comprises the step of:

circumscribing the openings with grommets.



38. The method of claim 36 wherein the step of defining further comprises the step of:

defining the openings adjacent to edges of the panels.

39. The method of claim 36 wherein the step of linking further comprises the steps of:

orienting the openings of adjacent panels in a vertical spaced relationship.

40. The method of claim 36 wherein the step of interconnecting further comprises the step of:

inserting at least one fastener through at least one opening.

41. The method of claim 40 wherein the step of interconnecting further comprises the step of:

locking and unlocking the fastener relative to the openings in the panels.

42. The method of claim 28 further comprising the step of:

anchoring the cover.

43. The method of claim 42 wherein the step of anchoring further comprises the step of:

anchoring the cover with an anchoring trench.

44. The method of claim 42 wherein the step of anchoring further comprises the step of:

anchoring the cover with at least one tie-down cable.

45. The method of claim 40 further comprising the step of:

anchoring the cover with at least one tie-down cable, the tie-down cable interacting with at least one fastener.

46. The method of claim 28 wherein the step of linking further comprises the step of:

orienting the panels in a partially overlapping relationship.

47. The method of claim 28 further comprising the step of:

supporting the cover above aqueous solutions.

48. The method of claim 28 wherein the step of linking further comprises the step of:

linking the panels together to cover a waste treatment pond.

## ABSTRACT

An insulated removable pond cover for settling ponds. The pond cover comprises a plurality of sealed panel units containing insulation. The panels units are linked together by means of a system of cables which pass through grommets in the panel units.

12

COMBINED DECLARATION UNDER  
37 C.F.R. §§1.63 AND 1.75(a) AND  
POWER OF ATTORNEY

Attorney Docket No.  
I 852-002

IN REISSUE APPLICATION

INSULATED REMOVABLE POND COVER

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

Express Mailing Label No. EH69938724405

Date of Deposit: March 28, 1997

I certify that the following papers (and/or fee(s)) are  
being deposited with the United States Postal Service  
Express Mail Post Office to Addressee: service under  
37 CFR § 1.10 on INSULATED REMOVABLE POND COVER, addressed  
to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks,  
Washington, D. C. 20231:

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.63

Respectfully submitted,  
FRIEDERICH'S LAW FIRM, P.C.

SPECIFICATION AND INVENTORSHIP IDENTIFICATION

Haey Anoddy  
As a below-named inventor, I declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to  
my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor of the subject matter which is  
claimed, and for which a patent was obtained and now a reissue patent is sought, on  
the invention entitled **INSULATED REMOVABLE POND COVER** the specification of  
which,

  x   is attached hereto.

  x   was described and claimed in United States Patent 5,400,549, issued March  
28, 1995.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF REVIEW OF PAPERS AND DUTY OF CANDOR

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified  
specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above  
and as added with this application for reissue. I believe I am the original, first and sole  
inventor. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is known to me to be  
material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of  
Federal Regulations, § 1.56.

DECLARATION

I declare that all statement made herein that are of my own knowledge are true and that all statements that are made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

### **DECLARATION FOR REISSUE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.175(a)**

#### **REASONS FOR SEEKING REISSUE**

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.175(a)(1), "the applicant verily believes the original patent to be partly or wholly inoperative or invalid" by reason of having claimed less than he had a right to claim in the patent.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.175(3) applicant specifically believes that claim 1 as originally issued contains many unnecessary limitations. The core of the invention is as stated in the original abstract and summary of the invention, namely a multi-piece cover that can be assembled and disassembled. Claim 1 contains many more limitations than that necessary to describe this invention and distinguish it over the prior art. Further, claims were not directed to the inventive method of using the cover.

The papers filed herewith seek to correct these errors by including claims of varying scope that are different in scope from the claims presented in the original patent, including appropriate method claims directed to use of the cover.

#### **THE ERRORS RELIED UPON AND HOW THEY OCCURRED**

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.175(a)(5) applicant identifies the error as the claims being too narrow in scope. In particular the claim as issued contains many limitations that are unnecessary to define over the prior art and are unnecessary to describe the invention. This error occurred as a result of a failure on the part of applicant's prior attorney's to appreciate the full scope of the invention at the time of prosecuting the patent. Applicant discovered these errors when applicant brought the patent to present counsel after issuance of the patent for review of an alleged incident of infringement.

#### **STATEMENT OF APPLICANT'S INTENT**

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.175(a)(6), applicant avers that said errors arose without any deceptive intention on the part of the applicant.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF REVIEW OF PAPERS AND DUTY OF CANDOR

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the patent specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above, including the present request for a reissued patent. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is known to me to be material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56.

#### DECLARATION

I declare that all statement made herein that are of my own knowledge are true and that all statements that are made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

#### POWER OF ATTORNEY

I appoint the following attorneys and agents to prosecute the patent application identified above and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, including full power of association, substitution and revocation:

Norman P. Friederichs	Reg. No. 24,919
N. Paul Friederichs, III	Reg. No. 36,515
Paul L. Maeyaert	Reg. No. 40,076

I ratify all prior actions taken by Friederichs Law Firm, plc. or the attorneys and agents mentioned above in connection with the prosecution of the above-mentioned patent application.

## DESIGNATION OF CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

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(Signature)

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